

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 were previously pending in the application, with claims 28-30 and 32-39 allowed and claims 23-26 objected to.


By this amendment, objected to claim 23 is rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims by combining claims 19-23 into independent claim 15. Claim 15 should now be allowed. Objected to claim 24 is amended to depend from claim 15 so that it and dependent claims 25 and 26 should now be allowed. Previous independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are amended to depend from allowable claim 15 so that claims 1-14 should now be allowed. Previously rejected claims 16-18 depend from now allowable claim 15 so that they should be allowed. Rejected claim 31 is amended to depend from allowed claim 29. It should be allowed. Rejected claim 27 is amended to be similar to claim 31, except for depending from allowed claim 28. It should now be allowed.

In view of the above, all of pending claims 1-18 and 24-39 should be allowed and such action is requested.

A separate request for approval of drawing changes has been filed deleting reference numeral 115 from Fig. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 7, 2003


F. William McLaughlin
Reg. No. 32,273

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ,
CLARK AND MORTIMER
Citicorp Center, Suite 3800
500 W. Madison Street
Chicago, IL 60661-2511
(312) 876-1800